Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

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DRAFTED BY NEA/INS: DKUX: B APPROVED BY NEA/INS: DKUX PM/SAS - MR. D.NIEMI DOD/ISA- COL. REISER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 135292

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IN, US

SUBJECT: PEACE INDIGO

FOR SCHNEIDER FROM KUX

- 1. BUZ WILLIAMS OF PEACE INDIGO PROJECT JUST CALLED TO ASK EMBASSY INTERVENTION WITH INDIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TO DELAY PROPOSED INDIAN ACTION TO TERMINATE PROJECT.
- 2. ACCORDING TO WILLIAMS, MOD JOINT SECRETARY ANANDA KHRISHNAN HAS TOLD REL-REEVES (MAIN CONTRACTOR) THAT GOI INTENDS TERMINATE CONTRACT AS OF JUNE 12, 1975, AND TO DRAW OUT BANK GUARANTEE FROM FIRSTNATIONAL CITY BANK. REL-REEVES SAYS IT IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHAT PROBLEM IS ABOUT BUT ASSUMES IT RELATES TO DELAYS IN DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT WHICH IT CLAIMS ARE CAUSED BY ENGINEERING CHANGES INDIANS HAVE ASKED FOR. REL REEVES CLAIMS THAT INDIAN ACTION WOULD BE BREACH OF CONTRACT AND INVOLVE ALL CONCERNED IN LENGTHY AND MESSY LAW SUIT. REL-REEVES ASKS THAT WE URGE GOI TO HOLD OFF ANY PRECIPITATE ACTION UNTIL CONFIDENTIAL

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FREDERICK PRO, COMPANY PRESIDENT, CAN FLY TO INDIA TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WHICH APPARENTLY BROKEN OFF WEEK OR TWO AGO. PRO PREPARED ARRIVE DELHI BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MONDAY JUNE 16.

- 3. COMMENT: WOULD LIKE YOU TO RAISE THIS PROBLEM ASAP WITH APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVEL AT MOD. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE FACTS AND DO NOT WANT TO GET IN THE MIDDLE OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE CONTRACTUAL DISPUTE BETWEEN GOI AND AMERICAN COMPANY, IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS TO GOI THAT THEY DO NOT NOW NEED ADDITIONAL PROBLEM IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. HAVE MADE THIS POINT HERE TO ERIC GONSALVES WHO AGREES AND SAYS HE WILL CABLE DELHI ASAP.
- 4. PLEASE ADVISE US OF GOI RESPONSE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS OUT TIME JUNE 11 SO WE CAN INFORM REL-REEVES WHERE THINGS STAND. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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